In the Claims:

1. (canceled)

2. (currently amended) The tether as defined in claim ~~1~~ 4, wherein said collar is slender; and
wherein said collar is elongated.

3. (canceled)

4. (currently amended) ~~The tether as defined in claim 3~~ A retractable tether for a pet, comprising:
a) a collar;
b) a leash; and
c) a pair of retractors;
wherein said leash is retractably connected to said collar by said pair of retractors, wherein said collar has a pair of ends;
wherein said collar has a ring; and
wherein said ring of said collar is attached to a first end of said collar by said first end of said collar passing therethrough, doubling back onto itself, and being affixed to itself, wherein a second end of said collar passes freely through said ring of said collar, doubles back onto itself, and is adjustably and replaceably affixed to itself by hook and loop fasteners; and
wherein said hook and loop fasteners of said collar are disposed on facing surfaces of said second end of said collar.

5. (currently amended) The tether as defined in claim ~~1~~ 4, wherein said leash is slender;
wherein said leash is elongated.

6. (canceled)

7. (currently amended) ~~The tether as defined in claim 1~~ A retractable tether for a pet, comprising:
a) a collar;
b) a leash; and
c) a pair of retractors;
wherein said leash is retractably connected to said collar by said pair of retractors, wherein said pair of retractors are diametrically opposed to each other; and
wherein said pair of retractors are attached to said collar.

8. (currently amended) ~~The tether as defined in claim 6~~ A retractable tether for a pet, comprising:
a) a collar;
b) a leash; and
c) a pair of retractors;
wherein said leash is retractably connected to said collar by said pair of retractors, wherein said leash has a pair of ends; and
wherein said pair of ends of said leash are operatively connected to said pair of retractors, respectively,
wherein each retractor comprises a housing;
wherein each retractor comprises a retracting mechanism;

wherein said retracting mechanism of each retractor is operatively connected within said housing of an associated retractor; and

wherein said retracting mechanism of each retractor is operatively connected to an associated end of said leash.

9. (original) The tether as defined in claim 8, wherein said housing of each retractor is generally cylindrically-shaped; and

wherein said housing of each retractor extends generally normally to said collar.

10. (original) The tether as defined in claim 8, wherein said housing of each retractor has a slit;

wherein said slit in said housing of each retractor extends axially therealong; and

wherein said leash extends through said slit in said housing of each retractor.

11. (original) The tether as defined in claim 10, wherein said retracting mechanism of each retractor comprises an axle; and

wherein said retracting mechanism of each retractor comprises a recoilable spring.

12. (previously presented) The tether as defined in claim 11, wherein said axle of said retracting mechanism of each retractor extends axially within said housing of said retracting mechanism of said associated retractor;

wherein said axle of said retracting mechanism of each retractor extends rotatably within said housing of said retracting mechanism of said associated retractor; and wherein an end of said leash extends through said slit in said housing of said associated retractor and is attached to said axle of said retracting mechanism of said associated retractor.

13. (previously presented) The tether as defined in claim 11, wherein said recoilable spring of said retracting mechanism of each retractor operatively connects said axle of said retracting mechanism of said associated retractor to said housing of said associated retractor.

14. (previously presented) The tether as defined in claim 11, wherein said recoilable spring of said retracting mechanism of each retractor allows said leash to freely recoil and be automatically wrapped around said axle of said retracting mechanism of said associated retractor when tension is removed from said leash.

15. (original) The tether as defined in claim 11, wherein each retractor comprises a ratchet mechanism.

16. (previously presented) The tether as defined in claim 15, wherein said ratchet mechanism of each retractor operatively connects said axle of said retracting mechanism of said associated retractor to said housing of said associated retractor.

17. (original) The tether as defined in claim 15, wherein said ratchet mechanism of each retractor does not allow said leash to freely recoil and be automatically wrapped around said axle of said retracting mechanism of an associated retractor when tension is removed from said leash, but rather requires an initial tug on said leash and maintaining tension thereon to release said ratchet mechanism of said associated retractor to cause said leash to wrap around said axle of said retracting mechanism of said associated retractor.